

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**EDWARD E. McNALLY
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

FEBRUARY 14, 2006

OLNEY MEN INDICTED IN METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY

Edward E. McNally, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 8, 2006, **ANTHONY R. ACORD**, age 46, and **THOMAS B. DAVIS**, age 34, both of Olney, Illinois, were named in a three count Indictment returned by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois.

Count 1 charged **ACORD** and **DAVIS** with conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

In addition, **ACORD** was charged with attempting to manufacture methamphetamine (Count 2); and possession of materials used in the manufacture of methamphetamine (Count 3).

Count 1 carries a maximum penalty of 5-40 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 4 years. Count 2 provides for a maximum penalty of up to 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 3 years. Count 3 carries a maximum penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and a term of supervised release of up to 3 years.

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Richland County Sheriff's Office, the Olney Police Department, and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office and federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies directed at removing illegal guns and drugs from our communities.

The Richland County State's Attorneys Office has assisted throughout the investigation and has prosecuted a number of individuals in related cases in Richland County Circuit Court.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.